

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Russell F. Durgin et al

Docket No.: H-TBK

Serial No.: 09/956,902

Art Unit: 3731

Filed: September 2, 2001

Examiner: G. Jackson

For: "Apparatus and Method for Compressing Body Tissue"

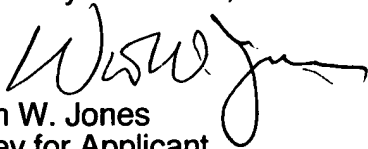
**Response to Office Action**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is responsive to the Official Office Action dated December 8, 2003. Enclosed is a terminal disclaimer to obviate an obviousness-type double patenting rejection in the captioned application. A check in the amount of \$ 110.00 in payment of the required fee is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date: 1-13-04

**RECEIVED**

JAN 22 2004

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